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## **McManus Applauds Legislation to Restore Critical Road Funding for Wexford County**

(LANSING) – State Senator Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, today announced her support for “Priorities First,” legislation that will restore critical funding for 34 scheduled statewide road projects, including three in Wexford County.

“I am pleased that the Legislature has been able to formulate a plan that restores much needed transportation dollars in order to renovate the roads in Wexford County,” McManus said. “The ‘Priorities First’ legislation is a welcome replacement to the short-sided, unidentified plan that the governor’s administration proposed. I am confident the residents of Wexford County welcome these supplemental measures.”

The three roads in Wexford County that would be back on schedule for repair under the “Priorities First” plan include M-42 from existing US 131 to the new US 131, US 131 from 6 Mile to Manistee River Bridge and US 131 and the Manton Bypass landscaping.

As part of the Governor’s “Preserve First” initiative, the Michigan Department of Transportation suspended 34 capacity improvement or Build Michigan III road projects to achieve its goal of having 90 percent of roads and bridges in good condition by 2007. Those deferments have upset the public, who have been eagerly expecting their local shoddy roads to be fully repaired.

Additionally, the Senate Transportation Committee will hold two public information hearings in order to receive public input on the Governor’s decision to suspend the 34 critical road projects.

**(MORE)**

The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hudsonville City Hall Commission Chambers, located at 3275 Central Blvd in Hudsonville. The second meeting will be conducted Monday May 5, at 7:00 p.m. at the Oakland County Admission Auditorium in Pontiac.

Individuals interested in more information on the “Priorities First” hearings or the 34 deferment projects may contact Senator McManus’ office at (517) 373-1725.